

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 027817
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

66011

DRAFTED BY S/S-O:DSUMMERS

APPROVED BY S/S-O:DSUMMERS

-----005987 021440Z /43

R 021409Z FEB 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

USDEL MC BRUSSELS

S E C R E T STATE 027817

EXDIS MILITARY HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT USNATO 1049 ACTION STATE INFO MADRID MOSCOW
RABAT ALL NATO CAPITALS FEB 1.

QUOTE S E C R E T USNATO 01049

EXDIS

DEPT PASS USNMR SHAPE, USCINCEUR, USDOCOSOUTH, USDELMC

MILITARY ADDRESSEES TREAT AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: NATO, SP, US

SUBJECT: SPANISH ENTRY INTO NATO

REFS: (A) STATE 004756 (DTG 071859Z JAN 78),
(B) 77 STATE 226467 (DTG 210232Z SEP 77), (C) 77 USNATO
09680 (DTG 071 544Z OCT 77), (D) USNATO 00901 (DTG
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271519Z JAN 78 NOTAL), (E) USNATO 00893 (DTG 271132Z
JAN 78 NOTAL)

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1. THE AMBASSADOR MET WITH SYG LUNS JANUARY 30 TO
REVIEW INFORMALLY THE US APPROACH TO SPANISH ENTRY
INTO NATO AS OUTLINED IN REFS A AND B. NOTING OUR

DESIRE TO SEE THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INSTITUTIONAL DIALOGUE LINKING SPAIN AND THE NATO INTERNATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STAFFS, THE AMBASSADOR SAID WE WOULD NOT BE APPROACHING THE ALLIES FORMALLY UNTIL WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GAUGE SPANISH REACTION.

2. LUNS REACTED POSITIVELY TO THE IDEA OF A DIRECT DIALOGUE BETWEEN NATO AND SPAIN, SAYING THAT NATO SHOULD BE RESPONSIVE TO SPANISH REQUESTS AND THAT SPAIN CAN HAVE ALL THE INFORMATION IT WANTS. HOWEVER, HE CONTINUED, ATTENDANCE OF SPANISH OBSERVERS AT THE NATO DEFENSE COLLEGE (REF D) IS A SEPARATE ISSUE SINCE PERMREPS HAD GENERALLY RESISTED THE IDEA.

3. LUNS STRESSED THAT THOSE WHO DESIRE SPANISH ENTRY INTO NATO SHOULD ENCOURAGE THE NORWEGIAN AND DANISH SOCIALISTS TO USE THEIR INFLUENCE TO CONVERT THE PSOE. HE STATED THAT THE SPD IN GERMANY WILL PLAY A USEFUL ROLE WITH SPANISH SOCIALISTS AND THAT PORTUGUESE PRIME MINISTER SOARES ALSO MIGHT HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON THEM.

4. COMMENT: THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S POSITIVE REACTION TO A POSSIBLE DIALOGUE DIRECTLY BETWEEN SPAIN AND NATO HEADQUARTERS SHOULD NOT LEAD TO UNDUE OPTIMISM SINCE ANY ONE OF THE ALLIES MIGHT OBJECT WHEN A DIALOGUE
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IS FORMALLY PROPOSED, PARTICULARLY IF THE RELEASE OF NATO CLASSIFIED MATERIAL IS AT ISSUE. THE PERMREPS' NEGATIVE REACTION TO THE REQUEST FOR OBSERVERS AT THE NATO DEFENSE COLLEGE AND RECENT CANADIAN AND DANISH CONCERN ABOUT THE PROPRIETY OF SPANISH OBSERVERS AT THE JANUARY NATO ECONOMIC COLLOQUIUM (REF E) MAY PROVE TO BE A MORE ACCURATE INDICATION OF ALLIED REACTION TO A DIALOGUE THAN LUNS' FORTHCOMING RESPONSE TO THE AMBASSADOR. BENNETT UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBERSHIP, ALLIANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE027817
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O:DSUMMERS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780050-0258
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197802100/aaaadgnj.tel
Line Count: 103
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7dc3cdcc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 STATE 4756, 77 USNATO 9680, 77 STATE 226467, 78 USNATO 893, 78 USNATO 901
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3428038
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SPANISH ENTRY INTO NATO
TAGS: MARR, SP, US, NATO
To: USNMR SHAPE USCINCEUR MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7dc3cdcc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014